

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

25X1

CD NO.

COUNTRY Bulgaria

DATE DISTR. 11 April 1952

25X1SUBJECT General and Military Information
from the Lukovit Area

NO. OF PAGES 3

NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)

SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

REFERENCE COPY
DO NOT CIRCULATE

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS INFORMATION AFFECTING THE NATIONAL DEFENSE OF THE UNITED STATES, WITHIN THE MEANING OF TITLE 18, SECTIONS 793 AND 794, OF THE U.S. CODE, AS AMENDED. ITS TRANSMISSION OR REVELATION OF ITS CONTENTS TO OR RECEIPT BY AN UNAUTHORIZED PERSON IS PROHIBITED BY LAW. THE REPRODUCTION OF THIS FORM IS PROHIBITED.

1. Lukovit (N4314 E2413) is located 12 kilometers southeast of the Cherveni Bryag railroad station of the Varna-Sofia line, and 50 kilometers southwest of Pleven. The city has a population of 8,000 and is a district center subject to Pleven. Three-fourths of the city's houses are 1-story residences; none have running water; a few have wells, but the majority of the people use the public fountains. There are no apartment houses, hotels, or large business establishments. The only important street is Simeon Kumanov street which divides the city in halves. The administration building, municipality building, finance building, post office, Communist Party club, and the reading room are all located on Simeon Kumanov street. There are no monuments, parks, statues, or other landmarks in the city.
2. There are no factories in Lukovit. A post office, hospital, and finance building are under construction and are almost completed. Communist Party headquarters are located on the main street in the building next to the iron bridge, above a warehouse; the hall has a capacity of approximately 150 persons.
3. Lukovit uses the railroad station at Cherveni Bryag. The station is not a terminal; trains operating between Sofia and Varna always meet at the station. There are no warehouses at the station.
4. A power plant, located approximately 200 meters north of the city, supplies electricity to Pleven as well as to the local areas. The plant draws its power from the Zlatna Panega stream which passes through Lukovit at a width of between four and six meters and a depth of one-half to one meter; at the plant, the water is 20 meters deep.

CLASSIFICATION ~~SECRET~~/CONTROL - U.S. OFFICIALS ONLY

[illegible]

SECRET/CONTROL - U.S. OFFICIALS ONLY

-2-

25X1

5. There is a black market in Lukovit for consumer goods; Communists in particular are engaged in black market dealings because they possess all items sold on the black market and are less likely to be punished if caught. Non-Communists who are caught are subjected to extremely heavy penalties. Secret militia elements investigate black market activities. Peasants who kill their livestock out of necessity are imprisoned as black market operators.
6. People are obliged to procure such foodstuffs as bread, meat, oil, and rice in the black market, at the following prices: One kilo flour, 250 leva; meat, 300 leva; cooking oil, 1,200 leva; and rice, 500 leva. Imported items such as nails, reinforcing steel, and wool dyes are black market items.
7. Another black market practice engaged in is the exchange of goods; for example, a farmer might exchange one kilo of liquor for one liter of kerosene or he might give four kilos of flour to receive one kilo of nails.
8. There are no publishing facilities in Lukovit. There are six loudspeakers scattered throughout the city for listening to radio broadcasts: one at the square in the eastern section of the city; one in front of the government administration building; two in the northern section of the city; and two in the southern section. No preventative measures are taken against listening to foreign broadcasts on private radios, but the Communists and the militia prosecute anyone caught listening to forbidden programs.
9. The local militia station is in the administration building and has a total personnel of 25-30. Militia patrols function as follows:
 - a. During the day patrols keep watch at three places: both ends of the main street, and in front of the administration building; and
 - b. At night three pairs of militia men patrol the town, in various sections, with 6-hour duty; identification and explanations are needed by individuals who are out after midnight.
10. The Telis military airport is located 18 kilometers from Lukovit at a point two kilometers north of Telis station.
11. [REDACTED] the second battalion of 3 Division [REDACTED] trained with Soviet weapons and forms the nucleus of the division; soldiers were forbidden to show any interest in its organization. The divisional commander is Captain Rankin, a Communist.
12. The commander of the Frontier Guard Battalion is Captain Georgiev and the political commissar is Lt. Stoyanov. The battalion is composed of five companies, each commanded by a first or second lieutenant; each company is composed of three squads, each of which are sub-divided into three sections of nine men each commanded by an officer candidate. Section commanders are armed with pistols, others are armed with infantry rifles; in addition, three men in each section have trench mortars, and one of these men also carries a pistol. The men also train with offensive and defensive bombs.
13. The Frontier Guard Battalion is composed of the first, second, third, fourth, and fifth companies. The fifth company is composed of the most reliable Commu-

SECRET/CONTROL - U.S. OFFICIALS ONLY

SECRET/CONTROL - U.S. OFFICIALS ONLY

-3-



25X1

nists who are better equipped than men in the other companies and receive superior instruction and training. These men are stationed at frontier posts and perform duties of a political nature, such as supervising and controlling the political conduct of the civilian population and the military personnel at their stations.

SECRET/CONTROL - U.S. OFFICIALS ONLY